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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/687,852	10/13/2000	Thiyagesan Ramalingam	062891.0438	1288

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Baker Botts L L P
2001 Ross Avenue
Dallas, TX 75201-2980

EXAMINER

ORGAD, EDAN

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2684

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DATE MAILED: 03/30/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/687,852

Applicant(s)

THIYAGESAN RAMALINGAM

Examiner

Edan Orgad

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 October 2000.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-45 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 45 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-44 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1, 2, 5, 10, 11, 14, 19, 20, 27, 28, 31, 36, 37 and 40 are rejected under 35

U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Jonas et al (US 2003/0193933).

Regarding claims 1, 10, 19, 27 and 36, Jonas teaches a system for transmitting a message in a communications network, the system comprising: a signaling gateway operable to receive a message directed to a destination circuit (§ 0012); a plurality of voice gateways coupled to the signaling gateway (fig. 2a, elements 200, 300 & 600), the voice gateways comprising a destination voice gateway coupled to the destination circuit; and a plurality of circuits comprising the destination circuit, each circuit coupled to at least one of the voice gateways, wherein the signaling gateway is operable to determine the destination voice gateway and to send the message to the destination voice gateway (fig. 2a, § 0030-0032).

Regarding claims 2, 11, 20, 28 and 37, Jonas teaches the destination voice gateway is associated with an Internet protocol address (§ 0038); and the signaling gateway is operable to: associate the destination circuit with the Internet protocol address; and send the message to the destination voice gateway by using the Internet protocol address (elements 200 & 220, § 0038).

Regarding claims 5, 14, 31 and 40, Jonas teaches the signaling gateway is operable to execute one or more message transfer parts, each message transfer part operable to direct the message to at least one of the voice gateways; and at least one voice gateway is operable to execute an integrated services digital network user part, the integrated services digital network user part operable to provide signaling information to a circuit (§ 0040).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 3, 4, 12, 13, 21, 22, 29, 30, 38 and 39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jonas et al (US 2003/0193933) in view Xu et al (US 6,542,503).

Regarding claims 3; 4, 12, 13, 21, 22, 29, 30, 38 and 39, Jonas fails to specifically disclose a hash table associated with the gateways, more specifically a hash table associating a circuit with a voice gateway coupled to the circuit, wherein the signaling gateway is operable to determine the destination voice gateway by using the hash table and that the message is at the appropriate signaling gateway by using the hash table. However, in the same field of endeavor, Xu teaches a hash table associating a circuit with a voice gateway coupled to the circuit, wherein the signaling gateway is operable to determine the destination voice gateway by using the hash table and that the message is at the appropriate signaling gateway by using the hash table (col. 3, lines 45-62, fig. 4, element 102). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill

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in the art at the time the invention was made to include Xu's hash table with Jonas' routing method in order to ensure that transmitted messages have not been tampered with.

Claims 7, 16, 24, 33 and 42 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jonas et al (US 2003/0193933).

Regarding claims 7, 16, 24, 33 and 42, Jonas fails to specifically disclose the header comprises a sender identifier identifying a sender of the message. However, official notice is taken that it is very well known to include a sender identifier identifying a sender of the message. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include a sender identifier identifying a sender of the message with Jonas' invention in order to provide the receiver with some caller identifier means.

Claims 6, 8, 9, 15, 17, 18, 23, 25, 26, 32, 34, 35, 41, 43 and 44 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jonas et al (US 2003/0193933) in view of Sladek et al (US 6,622,016).

Regarding claims 6, 15, 23, 32 and 41, Jonas fails to specifically disclose a message direction part operable to append a header to the message, the header comprising an address associated with the signaling gateway and a circuit identifier associated with the destination circuit. However, Sladek teaches a header comprising an address associated with the signaling gateway and a circuit identifier associated with the destination circuit (col. 10, lines 35-56). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include Sladek's teachings of a header comprising an address associated with the

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signaling gateway and a circuit identifier associated with the destination circuit in order to provide enhanced subscriber mobility.

Regarding claims 8, 9, 17, 18, 25, 26, 34, 35, 43 and 44, Sladek teaches the message comprises data information and video information (col. 10, lines 35-56).

Allowable Subject Matter

Claim 45 is allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding claim 45, the prior art of record specifically Jonas teaches a system for transmitting a message in a communications network, the system comprising: a signaling gateway operable to receive a message directed to a destination circuit (§ 0012); a plurality of voice gateways coupled to the signaling gateway (fig. 2a, elements 200, 300 & 600), the voice gateways comprising a destination voice gateway coupled to the destination circuit; and a plurality of circuits comprising the destination circuit, each circuit coupled to at least one of the voice gateways, wherein the signaling gateway is operable to determine the destination voice gateway and to send the message to the destination voice gateway (fig. 2a, § 0030-0032). However the prior art of record fails to specifically disclose a combination of a plurality of voice gateways coupled to the signaling gateway, the voice gateways comprising a destination voice gateway coupled to the destination circuit, the voice gateways operable to execute an integrated services digital network user part, the integrated services digital network user part operable to provide signaling information to a circuit; and a hash table associating the destination circuit with the destination

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voice gateway, the hash table associating the signaling gateway with the destination circuit; a plurality of circuits comprising the destination circuit, each circuit coupled to at least one of the voice gateways, wherein the signaling gateway is operable to execute one or more message transfer parts, each message transfer part operable to direct the message to at least one of the voice gateways; determine the destination voice gateway by using the hash table; determine that the message is at the appropriate signaling gateway by using the hash table; associate the destination circuit with an Internet protocol address identifying the destination voice gateway; append a header to the message, the header comprising an address associated with the signaling gateway, a circuit identifier associated with the destination circuit, and a sender identifier identifying a sender of the message; and send the message to the destination voice gateway.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

US 2003/0133558 Multiple call waiting in a packetized communication system.

US 2002/0016937 Method and apparatus for utilizing a network processor as part of a test system.

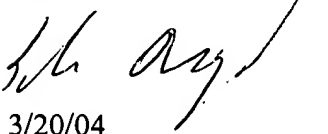
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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Edan Orgad whose telephone number is 703-305-4223. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00AM to 5:30PM with every other Friday off..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edan Orgad can be reached on 703-305-4223. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Edan Orgad



3/20/04



NAY MAUNG
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER